

00009-22 - Key Points on Potential Impacts to Critical Infrastructure - Convoy in Ottawa - 04 Feb 2022

From: "Trehearne, Deryck" <deryck.trehearne@ps-sp.gc.ca>
To: zita.astravas@qpc-cpr.gc.ca, christina.rettig@qpc-cpr.gc.ca, radey.barrack@qpc-cpr.gc.ca, annie.cullinan@qpc-cpr.gc.ca, caroline.williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca, duncan.tooley@qpc-cpr.gc.ca
Cc: "Bhupsingh, Trevor" <trevor.bhupsingh@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Reid, Raymond" <raymond.reid@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Horonowitsch, Emily" <emily.horonowitsch@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Cohen, Alexander" <alexander.cohen@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "MacBride, Craig" <craig.macbride@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Jones, Mike" <mike.jones@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Kurusamy, Gowthaman" <gowthaman.kurusamy@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "McDaniel, Carly" <carly.mcdaniel@ps-sp.gc.ca>, PS.O Ministers Office / Cabinet du ministre O.SP <ps.ministersoffice-cabinetduministre.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Trehearne, Deryck" <deryck.trehearne@ps-sp.gc.ca>, "Hoy, Peter" <peter.hoy@ps-sp.gc.ca>
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Colleagues,

New information in bold as of 17:00 EST, 04 Feb

Overview

- * Effective 15 Jan, COVID-19 vaccination became mandatory for all truckers entering Canada from the US to avoid a two-week quarantine and a negative COVID-19 test before arrival.
- * Similarly, beginning on 22 Jan, non-US essential workers who are crossing land borders must be fully vaccinated.

Key Points: (Details on Demonstrations in affected cities/regions)

Please note the format has changed to include demonstrations outside of the National Capital Region

Ottawa, ON:

- * An estimated 10 people on Parliament Hill, and between 100-200 people on Wellington street and the surrounding area.
 - * Thousands more protesters, hundreds more trucks expected for Ottawa's second weekend of trucker protest. [Link](#)
 - * Ottawa police chief, city officials receive death threats from truck convoy protestors. [Link](#)
 - * Trucker protest in Ottawa can only be defused by policing, experts say. [Link](#)
 - * Police resources are aware of a makeshift camp that has been built in Confederation Park. [Link](#)
 - * There are several potential demonstrations being planned for 05 Feb in the City of Ottawa. These are a mix of demonstrations and counter-demonstrations.
- Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have confirmed two convoys coming this weekend from the East, and one coming from Kingston.

Toronto, ON:

- * Toronto police close roads around hospital row for planned protest at Queen's Park. [Link](#)
- * Two hospitals cancel small number of appointments as police prepare for protest outside Ontario legislature. [Link](#)
- * A convoy is expected to head to Toronto over the weekend. [Link](#)

- * Demonstrations are expected to occur at Queen's Park. [Link](#)

Quebec City, QC:

- * **Demonstrations are expected to take place in the vicinity of the QC National Assembly buildings.**
- * **Organizers of Quebec City convoy say protest to begin Friday afternoon.** [Link](#)
- * Trucker convoys began to arrive in Quebec City the evening of 03 Feb. [Link](#)

Winnipeg, MB:

- * **Convoy protesting pandemic restrictions clogs traffic in downtown Winnipeg.** [Link](#)

Coutts (Port of Entry) AB:

- * Two lanes of traffic are open on the highway in the vicinity of Coutts, allowing access to the US border.
- * A second blockade has been organized approximately 20 km north of Coutts. [Link](#)
- * AB First Nation calls attention to 'blatant disparity' in response to Coutts protests. [Link](#)
- * RCMP unsure when AB border protest will end. [Link](#)

Multi-jurisdictional:

- * A Mariners' vessel parade is being planned across Canada, reportedly aiming to "protest in ports and all over Canadian shipping lanes."
 - * The movement's Facebook page has gained over 12,000 members.
 - * The event is planned for 04 Feb at 13:00 local time at participant ports. While disruptive activity is not being considered for 04 Feb, consideration is being given to disrupting commercial marine transportation in future events should demands not be met.
- * Demonstrations are planned at numerous ports of entry from the US, however, these are currently unconfirmed.

Preparedness and Response efforts

Ottawa ON :

- * **The GOC hosted a Significant Event Information Sharing Protocol (SEISP) teleconference at 13:00 EST with partners at TBS and PCO. SEISP calls will continue on an ad hoc basis for the remainder of the event.**
- * **OPS has increased uniformed presence over the weekend.**
 - * **Ottawa police vow 'surge and contain' response to trucker convoy.** [Link](#)
- * The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) Chief provided an update on the police response at 09:00 EST, 04 Feb. [Link](#)
- * RCMP is sending more officers to assist OPS. [Link](#)
- * On 29 Jan, a NOTAM was issued for airspace restrictions over Parliament Hill and has been extended until 07 Feb.
- * OPS and OPP resources continue to address areas of tension with truckers/demonstrators and maintaining public safety is the number one priority.
- * OPS additionally reports the following:
 - * No violence has taken place in the NCR.
 - * Continue to avoid nonessential travel to the downtown core.
- * For information on [planned traffic routes, road closures and location of other demonstrations nationally.](#)

- * For updates on the [City of Ottawa road closures and traffic](#) or via social media [@Ottawa_Traffic](#) and [@Ottawa_Circule](#).

Other Jurisdictions:

- * On 03 Feb, a NOTAM was issued for airspace restrictions over Queen's Park in Toronto. Restrictions are in effect until 09 Feb.
- * On 03 Feb, a NOTAM was issued for airspace restrictions over Quebec City, QC. Restrictions are in effect until 09 Feb.
- * NOTAMs are in effect over Milk River, AB in addition to Coutts, AB until 09 Feb.

Overall Assessment: (derived from information available on open sources):

- * The majority of the events have been peaceful.
- * Since most government employees are working remotely, the disruption to government activities is so far minor.
- * There is currently no known end time for the demonstrations.

Deryck Trehearne
 Director General | Directeur général
 Government Operations Centre | Centre des opérations du gouvernement
 613-991-7728 | BBMe: EF05FF6B | 613-219-2375 c



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